

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 95-108, 112, and 115 are pending in this application. Claims 59-94, 109-111, 113, 114 and 116 are canceled by the present response without prejudice.

Claims 59-68, 78-83, 85-86, 88-89, 95-98, 100, 102-104, and 116 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Claims 78, 79, 83, 84, 85, 87, 88, 89, and 116 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. patent 5,841,437 to Fishkin et al. (herein "Fishkin").

The present response is submitted to place the application in condition for allowance.

More specifically, with respect to the rejection of claims 59-68, 78-83, 85-86, 88-89, 95-98, 100, 102-104, and 116 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, that rejection is overcome by the present response.

Several of the above-noted claims are canceled by the present response without prejudice. Further, each of independent claims 95, 102, and 112 is amended by the present response to clarify those claims directed to data "which a data storage unit stores". The claim amendments are believed to address the above-noted rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101.


Addressing now the rejection of claims 78, 79, 83, 84, 85, 87, 88, 89, and 116 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Fishkin, that rejection is obviated by the present response as those rejected claims are canceled by the present response without prejudice.

Applicants also note the presence of withdrawn claims 105-108 and 112 in the present application. However, each of claims 105-108 and 115 depends from one of the pending claims, and thus should properly be reinstated. Further, with respect to withdrawn claim 112, that claim is also believed to be properly reinstated as claim 95 is generic to claim 112, in view of the presently submitted amendments to claim 112; that is each feature recited in claim 95 is also required in amended claim 112, and thus claim 112 is also clearly allowable.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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